

## WRITERS TRAVEL HARD ROAD

Even the Best Generally Have to Wait Long Before Their Work Is Read and Appreciated.

Magazine articles submitted for publication are commonly referred to professional readers for approval. Most of them suffer from eye-strain and avoid all unnecessary labor. They give preference to known writers. An unknown one is very fortunate to get his story read at all. Generally he must wait until chance leads to the reading of his story. Many of the professional readers also suffer from literary dyspepsia and do not know a really good story when they see it. O. Henry, Morgan Robertson and many others of our best story writers, including Edgar Allan Poe, nearly starved to death while magazines kept returning their manuscripts unread, with polite notes of declination. Presently accident caused one story of O. Henry to be published because there happened to be little copy of known writers on hand. Immediately the reading public recognized its merit. From that time for several years after there was a story from O. Henry in every magazine in the country every month. People wondered how any living man could be so prolific, but Sidney Porter was merely unloading two trunks of declined manuscripts upon publishers who had previously turned them down.

### TROTSKY THE MAN.

He is tall, strong, angular; his appearance as well as his speech gives the impression of boldness and vigor. His voice is a high tenor ringing with mettle. And even in his quiet moments he resembles a compressed spring.

He is always on the aggressive. He is full of passion—that white-haired, vibrating mental passion that characterizes the intellectual Jew. On the platform, as well as in private life, he bears an air of peculiar importance, an indefinable something that says very distinctly: "Here is a man who knows his value and feels himself chosen for superior aims." Yet Trotsky is not imposing. He is modest. He is detached. Back in the depths of his dark eyes there is a lingering sadness.—Asia.

### SPIRIT OF RESOLUTION.

"You don't complain about the weather as much as you used to."

"No," replied Mr. Groucher; "with friends and relatives lined up against all kinds of war machinery in France, I guess I can look a little thing like a thermometer in the face without flinching."

### WHERE THE DIFFICULTY LIES.

"Do you object to having German taught in the schools?"

"I don't exactly object," answered the man of mild inclinations. "But it doesn't seem exactly practical. How is a student going to keep his mind on his lesson instead of losing his temper?"

### MEAN.

"What's this?" he asked. "That's my war bread," she replied. "You know food will win the war."

"This certainly would," he retorted, "if you could find a way to feed it to the Germans."

### CROPS AND POETRY.

"There's no such word as fail," quoted the resolute citizen. "I've heard that," replied Farmer Cornstossel. "I reckon the man who said that never had to sit up watchin' a young peach orchard."

### Good Business.

Some one with an eye to business has had the good idea of establishing, outside a munition factory in Great Britain, a milliner's shop with the latest in hats and blouses for girls. After long hours of work, it is easy to imagine how attractive such a shop window would appear to the girls; the difficulty is, probably, to find sufficient shop attendants at the busy hours to sell hats and blouses to eager buyers. The idea is the same, of course, as the tuck shop outside the school gates.—Christian Science Monitor.

## Compensation



### HOW THEY HELP TO WIN WAR

Country's Youngsters More Than "Doing Their Bit" for the Country We All Love.

More than 2,400,000 boys and girls were reached through club work last year, according to a compilation recently made by the United States department of agriculture, which supervises this work in co-operation with the State Agricultural colleges. Of this number approximately 350,000 made complete reports, which show that they produced and conserved products amounting to \$10,000,000. In the 33 Northern and Western states 840,606 boys and girls were enrolled. Of this number 160,625 had reported products valued at \$3,700,000. In the South there were 115,745 boys enrolled in the regular work, who produced products valued at \$4,500,000, and 74,306 girls who produced and conserved products valued at \$1,500,000. In the emergency club work in the South the club leaders reached over 400,000 boys and approximately 1,000,000 girls who produced and conserved products valued at more than \$4,000,000.

### Between Air Raids.

This is a thrilling and true story of two women who kept a "posto di conforto" at Treviso, Italy, for traveling sick and wounded soldiers:

Having done some very good terrorizing by the six o'clock raids, the Huns kept them up. It was such a pestiferous nuisance, because we were always in the middle of cooking the evening meal! With your soldier cook and servant safe down in the cellar, it becomes your pleasing duty to run out between raids to stir the soup or put another stick of wood on the fire. With shrapnel falling all around, it is not altogether wise to go with uncovered head. We had given our two helmets to American ambulance drivers and were without any, so I was obliged to wear a granite saucerpan on my head for these stirring parties. It was not our custom to go into a refuge. We claimed to those who expostulated that during the raids was when we were the most needed.—Red Cross Magazine.

It is possible to have pretty shoes at small expense to match light dresses, writes a correspondent. Shoes of delicate colors are hard to find and always expensive. One girl wanted a pair of light gray shoes and this is how she managed: She had a pair of white canvas shoes which were somewhat soiled. She first scrubbed them with good white soap and water, using a small brush, then drying them in the sunshine. She then mixed a little black and white oil paint until the desired gray shade was obtained. This she mixed in a cup half full of turpentine. Very little paint is needed. Just enough to color the canvas. Brush the liquid over the shoes with a small paint brush and you will be surprised to find how nice they look. They dry with no streaks. Match them in ribbon for ties. Of course any colors may be made to match any gown. The artists' paint is not expensive, the black and white are only a few cents a tube each.

### GOLF COAT COURSE.

Willis—Do you wear any insignia on your golf coat?

Gillis—Yes. During the winter the moths laid out a complete 18-hole course on it.—Pittsburgh Press.

### COLOSSAL ITALIAN COLONEL



This massive looking specimen of man is big enough to take one's breath away. The most recent jibe directed at tall men, "Aw, you're too big to fit in the trenches," is smashed to smithereens, as this picture shows.

The "giant" is an Italian colonel, who is paying a visit to the Italian sector in France. The Italians on the western front have been giving a good account of themselves and are co-operating with the French on this front to stop the German drive just started.

### FAIR WARNING.

"Are you going to take any summer boarders this year?"

"If any come along, I'll take 'em," said Mr. Cobbles, "but one thing has got to be distinctly understood."

"Yes?"

"Me an' my hired man are goin' to be powerful busy this summer. There ain't goin' to be but one call for breakfast, an' that will be at 4 a. m."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

### DULL EVENING SOMEWHERE.

"Excuse this small box of bonbons, my first and only love. You know Mr. Hoover advocates the conservation of sweets."

"I agree with Mr. Hoover."

"Patriotic girl!"

"You get no kiss tonight."—Dayton Herald.

### CRAZES.

"What has become of the dancing craze?"

"It went like the roller-skating craze and the bicycle craze. People woke up and found they were overworking themselves."

### ONLY ON RARE OCCASIONS.

Hub—Didn't I hear the cook call you by your first name.

Wife—Don't say a word. She only does that when she's good natured.—Boston Transcript.

## BARNUM NOT FIRST IN FIELD

French Surgeon, Centuries Ago, Proved Himself a Genius in the Art of "Humburgery."

On January 11, 1613, some masons were digging near the ruins of the castle near Dauphine, Upper Burgundy, in a field which by tradition has long been called the Giant's field. At a depth of 18 feet they discovered a brick tomb, 30 feet long, 12 feet broad and 9 feet high, bearing the inscription, "Theutobochus Rex." Within was a giant skeleton, 25 feet 6 inches in length, 10 feet across the shoulders and 5 feet from the breastbone to the backbone. The teeth were about the size of an ox's foot, and the shinbone measured 4 feet. Some of the bones were carried to Paris and placed on exhibition. They spoke for themselves, to disastrous result, as will be seen. With regard to the story, Parisians had to depend upon the word of the self-alleged organizer of that party of masons. He was a surgeon named Muzerein. His ingenuity and energy in advertising himself and his giant indicate that he was the Barnum of his day. Both the pleasure-seeking and the scientific world were excited over the wonderful discovery. Thousands flocked to see the bones. Doctor Muzerein was on the high road to fortune when one day an anatomist announced that the skeleton of King Theutobochus was nothing more than a part of the fossil remains of an elephant.

## GIRLS' AND BOYS' CLOTHING

Simplicity Should Rule Even in Garments for "Dress-Up" Occasions—Wartime Economy Necessary.

For "dress-up" occasions the girls will require two or more sets of lingerie underwear, notes a correspondent. This should be simply made to save time in making and laundering. Trimmings may be simple homemade edgings, feather stitching, rick-rack braid or one of the durable torchon or cluny edges. Sunday frocks will be of white and may be of poplin or gaberdine in the severer one-piece styles, or of muslin in a softer design showing gathers and frills.

The "dress-up" needs of the boy of seven and over are fully met by a two-piece suit of Canadian tweed, with hat or cap to match. Shirt waists or shirts of striped madras are worn with this suit. The younger boy's "Sunday" suit can be a shirt-waist one, the pantaloons, which button to the waist, being made of either washable material or serge. He will need a separate coat.

Wartime economy will suggest that as many as possible of these garments be made from second-hand material. The indispensable sweatercoat may be fashioned from a discarded grown-up one by redying and cutting it over. Boys' shirt waists may be made from the best parts of men's discarded shirts, which are usually of excellent material. A woman's cloth skirt will make knickerbockers for the small boy or bloomers or skirt for the girl.

In buying new materials avoid loose colors. Lavenders, greens and blues cannot be relied upon.

## PLEASANT WAY ALWAYS BEST

Nothing Ever Lost by Effort to Take Sting Out of Request That Must Be Refused.

Do you know how to take the sting out of anything unpleasant you have to do? It is a good plan to learn how to do this.

"She said she couldn't do it, but you know how Effie would say such a thing. She tries so hard to make everybody feel pleasant. Now, when I say no, people understand that I mean no."

Marcia looked as well pleased with herself as if she had announced a more amiable characteristic. She was a girl with a peculiarly blunt and uncompromising manner. If she refused a request, her refusal was as downright as a blow. It was never softened by any little phrase suggesting regret. And Marcia was so well satisfied with herself that she felt something like contempt for the way Effie took the sting out of saying no, and made the people to whom she refused a favor as grateful as if she had granted it.

The girl who starts to go through life with her elbows out is going to find the road hard to travel. If she prides herself on being blunt and outspoken, she may need to use that as consolation for her sore heart many a time. It pays to make even a refusal pleasant. It pays to take out the sting whenever possible, and drop in the honey. One who starts out as Marcia did, priding herself on being blunt, and contemptuous of the little courtesies, is likely to come to old age friendless and embittered. Learn to be pleasant and take out the sting.—Exchange.

Abundance of Streams Makes Power Cheap, and Big Industry Is Being Built Up.

Because of the high price of kerosene electric light is coming into general use in Japan, according to Y. Sinjo, a director of the Tokyo Electric company, who is in Seattle. He says that an abundance of water power makes electric light and power a very cheap commodity, and every town with a population of 1,000, or even less, has its electric light plant.

"In most instances the plants are owned by the municipality and the service is furnished to the consumers at cost," he said. "As Japan is a mountainous country, there are many small rivers with swift currents and waterfalls suitable for hydro-electric plants. Within the last few years the number of electricity consumers has been increasing about 20 per cent each year. The high ocean freight rates have made kerosene too expensive for general use for lighting purposes."

"Since the war began Japan has built up a big industry in manufacturing chemicals that formerly came from Germany. Hydro-electric power is used in the process."

### RECRUIT BALKS AT THE JOB

Declared He Had Only Agreed to Get Kaiser and Couldn't Take On Whole Germany.

"Are you willing to go across and fight the Germans?" asked an interviewer in the mustering office in Fort Campbell No. 2 of a young Florida negro at Camp Dix, whose personnel record he was completing, the query being one of the formal questions put to every recruit.

"Ah, don't know 'bout dat, boss!" answered the colored boy. "Ah thought you jest wanted me to go get the Kaiser. Ein a-banker! to fix that ole Kaiser, but does yuh mean yuh want me to lick da whole gang?"

The interviewer explained the situation. The young negro's home board had told him they were going to send him to Europe to "get the Kaiser" and he came to camp thinking it was a single-handed job. His face brightened when he found that in his personal part he would have the backing of several million allies.

The personnel questionnaire made out in the mustering office brings some amazing answers from the southern negroes recently brought there for training. One couldn't remember where his father was born.

"Well, was he born in the United States?" asked the interviewer. "No, indeed, suh, no indeed!" replied the recruit. "He was born in Virginy!"

The same recruit wanted to show that he could qualify under every question. "Are you a member of any lodge or fraternity?" was a query put to him. "Good Lawd, boss, I should say I was! I's a pallbearer."

New uniforms are being issued to these Florida recruits and they are the proudest soldiers in the camp. They have taken to the military game like ducks to water, and officers are amazed at the cleverness they are showing in learning drill orders in elementary army work.